After the foregoing Amendment, Claims 2, 3 and 5-9 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1 and 4 have been canceled without prejudice and claims 2, 3, 5, and 7-9 have been amended. Applicants submit that no new matter has been

introduced into the application by these amendments.

In the Action, claims 5 and 6 were only objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Dependent claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of its base claim and intervening claims. Claim 5 should therefore be allowable. Claims 2, 3 and 6-8 now depend from claim 5, and therefore, these claims should also be allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claims 5 and 6 be withdrawn, and Applicants respectfully

Independent claim 9 has been amended to include all of the limitations of allowable claim 5. In a telephone conversation between the undersigned and Supervisory Examiner Gregory Toatley Jr. on 4 January 2006, Examiner Toatley indicated that subject to review, an amendment of claim 9 including the limitations of allowable claim 5 would appear to be allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 9 is also allowable.

submit that the Section 103 rejections in the Action in the Action are now moot.

If the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issue in order to place this application in condition for allowance, the

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Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

In view of the foregoing Amendments and Remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and submit that the present Application, including claims 2, 3 and 5-9, is in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Rembe et al.

By <u>U</u>

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DPD/dmm